

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill directs the commissioner of human services to seek an amendment to the federal home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver plans to adjust the consumer-directed community supports budget methodology.

HCBS offers service options that allow people to live in the community instead of going into or staying in an institutional setting. HCBS covers two types of services: (1) services necessary to avoid institutionalization that are not offered in Minnesota's MA state plan, and (2) services that are extensions of Minnesota's MA state plan services. Minnesota has four HCBS disability waivers: the Developmental Disability Waiver (DD), the Community Alternatives for Chronically Ill Individuals (CAC) waiver, the Community Alternatives for Disabled Individuals (CADI), and the Brain Injury (BI) waiver.

A person's waiver budget is determined by an assessment of the person's functional needs. State plan services must be used before extended services. Supports are purchased from a menu of possible waiver services. DHS allocates "slots" to counties. Each county's HCBS allocation is set by DHS for a certain number of slots (base allocation plus any inflation). The DD waiver is a separate annual allocation. All other waivers (CADI, CAC, BI) are allocated every six months. One exception is the consumer-directed community support (CDCS) option. This is a state-set limit for individual budgets and allowable services/expenses (included in the county allocation).

Section

- 1** **Commissioner to seek amendment for adjustment to consumer-directed community supports budget methodology.** By July 1, 2015, requires the commissioner of human services to request from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services an amendment to the DD, CAC, CADI, and BI waivers adjusting the budget methodology for consumer-directed community supports for individuals 21 years of age and older who have left the school system so that they may effectively self-direct their employment and daytime supports. Specifies the manner in which the increase must be determined. Requires the commissioner to consult with stakeholders to implement this section by January 1, 2016, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.